

DECLASSIFIED

POL 14 VIETS
(469)

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

8

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

EXCISE

E

10801

Action NNNNVV MJB452JIA582
FE RR RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 3807 2300700
ZNY CCCCC
Info R 180449Z
SS FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
G TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
SP INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC
SAH RUMNMF/CG III MAF
L RUMNVH/AMCONSUL HUE
H STATE GRNC
IO BT
P

16864

1966 AUG 18 AM 5 19

USIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 3807
NSC
INR AUGUST 18
CIA CINCPAC FOR POLAD
NSA
DOD
AID
REF: SAIGON 3625
RSR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Dean J. Gentry DATE 10/6/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

1. FATHER HOANG QUYNH, LEADER OF FRONT OF ALL RELIGIONS, REPORTEDLY TOLD PRESS AUGUST 16 THAT FRONT WAS TAKING POSITION ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS SIMILAR TO THAT CONTAINED IN AUGUST 15 BUDDHIST INSTITUTE COMMUNIQUE: CITIZENS OF DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY HAVE RIGHT NOT TO VOTE. ONE PAPER QUOTES FATHER QUYNH AS HAVING SAID: "WE WILL NOT GO TO POLLS, BUT IF WE DO NOT PREVENT OTHERS FROM VOTING, IF

WE DO NOT ORGANIZE PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, THEN HOW COULD GOVERNMENT OUTLAW US?"

2. PRESS ALSO REPORTS FATHER HOANG QUYNH AS SAYING ON AUGUST 16 HE ACCEPTED CHALLENGE TO POLICY DEBATE APPARENTLY ISSUED BY PRIME MINISTER KY DURING LATTER'S AUGUST 15 VISIT TO HUE AND DANANG. KY IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID AT THAT TIME HE WAS READY TO DEBATE ANYONE WHO WAS OPPOSED TO

CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF EVENING AUGUST 17L

b-1
ed

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DECLASSIFIED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

-2- SAIGON 3807, AUGUST 18

[] SAID HE BELIEVED SLIGHT SOFTENING OF HOANG
QUYNH'S OPPOSITION TO ELECTIONS WAS DUE TO FEAR THAT GVN
MIGHT TAKE SANCTIONS AGAINST THOSE GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS
ACTIVELY OPPOSING ELECTIONS. THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS IN LOCAL
PRESS TO THIS EFFECT AND KY IS QUOTED AS HAVING SAID ON
AUGUST 15 IN HUE THAT "THOSE MAKING PROPAGANDA IN ORDER TO
SABOTAGE ELECTIONS WILL BE PUNISHED ACCORDING TO LAW AND
IF NECESSARY, NEW LAW WILL BE PROMULGATED." HOWEVER,
WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY ARRESTS FOR THIS REASON AND THERE
HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO ISSUANCE OF ANY SUCH
LAW. LODGE

b-1
ed

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DECLASSIFIED